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Isaac N. Jones

Market St.

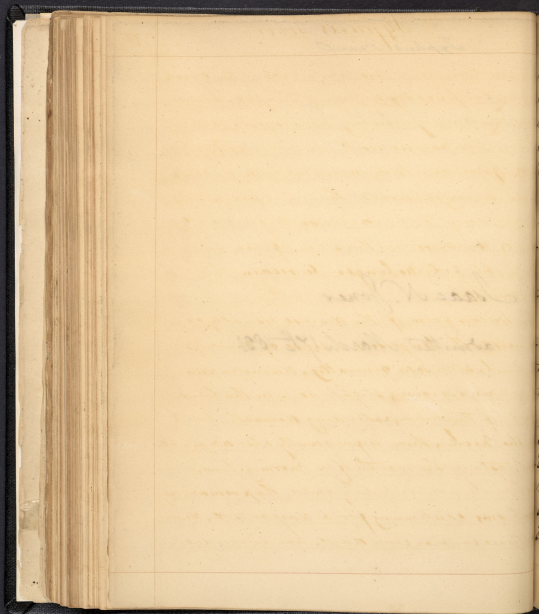
No 241

Mrs Green

Feb 7. 230

Isaac N. Jones

admitted March 17th 1821.



Typhus Fever

The term typhus is derived from the Greek word *typhos* signifying stupor. It has been customary among Nosologists to treat of this disease under the two heads *Mitior*, and *Gravior*. But more modern writers from having observed that this distinction served only to characterise different grades of violence in the same fever, have thought fit no longer to retain this distinction.

The milder form of the disease usually commences with languor & a sense of soreness in the limbs, & muscles generally, disinclination to active exercise, slight pain in the hinder part of the head, extending down the back of the neck, there is frequently also an unpleasant taste in the mouth in the morning. These, which may with propriety be termed the premonitory symptoms continuing for a day or two, and sometimes four or five days, are succeeded by

continues which is often from the first an attention-
-ant symptom; nausea, sometimes vomiting, ^{the} pain
in the hinder part of the head, extending down
the back of the neck is increased; ^{chills} Anorexia, tongue
furred rather whitish & moist at first, then be-
-comes darker, urine high coloured; pulse hard
tense & chorded, skin hot, thirst in some instances
considerable. As the disease progresses, there is
determination to the head, the face is flushed,
delirium, twitching of the tendons. These constitute
the milder form of dysphus.

Much more violent in all its symptoms is the
worse form. Instead of being preceded for several
-ral days by languor, we find it accompanied
-pains ~~by~~ very great soreness of all the
muscles, ^{irritated by flashes of heat} bathing of foot, gastric distress,
Nausea to a distressing degree; vomiting of
a dark or greenish coloured matter from the
stomach; tongue is covered with a slightly
discoloured crust, is dry; soon becomes dry

darker, & stiff, the teeth become covered with the same kind of mucus; bowels constipated and loaded with dark coloured feces, which often renders them painful. Pulse changed, tense & hard. Determination of blood to the head producing, flushing of the face, head ach, & often dilated pupil. Skin hot at first, then its temperature becomes different in different parts of the body, in some cold in others hot. The veins at first high coloured, but often pale especially preceding delirium. The twitchings of the tendons which invariably ^{are} attendant symptom from the first become so aggravated as to produce Subcutaneous tumour, low muttering, and when the case is to terminate fatally all these symptoms are aggravated, the pulse irregular, fluttering, & almost imperceptible. The delirium is constant, features shrunk, marking the Hippocratic countenance. Vibices mark the skin.

The extremities become cold & clammy, strength sinks, the eyes become suffused. Dark hæmorrhage takes place from the mouth, nose, bowels, vagina, & more seldom, from the lungs, & death ensues.

During the progress of the disease many anomalous symptoms arise. Among those which have already been noticed may be reckoned. Deafness, defective vision, & constant tinnitus aurium is a frequent symptom. The senses become impaired, & during loss of memory & defect in the understanding. But in process of time these become natural again. Entire suppression of urine for 24 or 48 hours, without any apparent inconvenience. This symptom is however, though very rarely attended with great distress to the patient. In the former case the urine is not discharged because it is not secreted, but in the latter it

secreted but there is an inability to discharge it.

These constitute the chief of those symptoms which mark Typhus Fever. Encompassing within its deadly grasp every part of the system, it comes but to destroy.

As to its origin opinion is various, but it seems pretty well established at present, that it is of much more common parentage than formerly supposed. Attributing it entirely to the production of specific contagion it has been denied any other origin. But by modern writers it is proven to be the production of miasmata, and all those causes which tend greatly to debilitate the system, and among these are to be mentioned bad diet, grief, long exposure to the radiation action of cold &c. &c.

The time at which the disease makes its appearance after having been exposed to its cause is various in different people. Some are attacked immediately,

ately, others (which is by far most common) not till eight or ten days have elapsed. And others again not till 50 or 60 or 70, from the time of their exposure to its cause.

For it is presumed will pretend to deny the contagious nature of this disease. It being a characteristic of the disease which as far as I know never has been has been denied, proofs of its contagion are unnecessary. The contagious matter of the disease is conveyed to persons either by being exposed to the atmosphere immediately in the neighbourhood of ~~the~~ ^a person confined with the disease. Or it may be propagated by fomites. And what is very remarkable, it is ascertained beyond a doubt that the contagion may be communicated from the clothes of persons who have not the disease themselves. It is also observed by Cullen & Lind that fomites is much more apt to communicate the disease, & that it proves much

more malignant when thus received.

The contagious matter when once received by the system, is excited to action by the usual exciting causes of fever, as exposure to vicissitudes of heat & cold, exposure to damp weather, loss of sleep, fear, anger, irregularities in eating & drinking &c. the usual exciting causes of fever.

After having been excited into action, no little diversity of opinion has at different times prevailed as to the part of the system on which it exerts its primary action.

During the prevalence of the humoral pathology, this with all other diseases was said to originate from a depraved state of the fluids. By the disciples of the celebrated Cullen, it is believed to originate from an affection of the nervous system. The brownian system divides disease into Sthenic & Asthenic.

The opinion which now seems generally to prevail is that in a large majority of instances, the

fault lies in the Stomach. That by sympathy
this communicates the disease to the rest of
the system, & hence the origin of them.

Probably nothing to the disciples of these various
sects can appear more plain than ^{that} the pastoral
- can doctrine advocated by them is the only
correct one.

In this disease we find a specimen of the influence of "False Theory leading to pernicious practice". By the humoral pathologists, disease being supposed to reside solely in the depraved state of the fluids, maining extolled to expel this peccant matter was sought for, & hence their terms Iuspissants, Chlarents, Cholagogus, Hydragagus &c. which the more enlightened part of the profession have long since expelled from the catalogue of Medical technology. To those who are better calculated to determine the accuracy or inaccuracy of the various notions of this sect of Physicians

than myself, I must for the present leave the argument concerning the influence of the fluids in producing disease. To me however I feel bound to confess there does not seem to be much accuracy in the theory. I am well aware that it is said by physiologists, that the fluids constitute by far the larger part of the system. But it appears also that they are the productions of certain operations of what are termed the solids, on the alimentary substances taken into the stomach. These articles, acted on by the chylific viscera, pass thence into the general circulation; where they receive other modifications by the actions of the different parts of the system on them, to repair the continual waste. Hence it appears that it is the actions of the different parts of the digestive apparatus on the fluids, & not the fluids on the apparatus, that the process of nutrition goes on; ^{and} also appears that such is the nature of the animal economy, that whenever

any thing is taken into the stomach, that is not adapted to undergo the changes requisite to render it subservient to his purposes; a train of uneasy sensations is excited to action, and the substance is either expelled, or by the violence of the actions excited by its presence, the system is destroyed. This is daily exemplified by every practitioner of medicine in the administration of the various articles of the materia medica.

We hence are led to conclude that the various applications to the system cannot with much reason be concluded to enter the circulation, by entering the stomach & being thence conveyed to the different parts.

To the latter conclusion I am aware that ^{objection} ~~an~~ is made, from having ~~having~~ detected the smell of certain substances in the urine. But to Mr. Chapman's explanation of this circumstance appears very plausible. ~~viz~~ That the article is taken up by the chyliferous viscera as a part of the

homogeneous alimentary mass; & that after having got entirely out of the circulation, is again regenerated by a play of chemical affinities.

By those who contend for the doctrine of humoral pathology, it may be urged also that the morbid matter producing the disease, finds access through the absorbents situated on the surface of the body. But it appears pretty well established by the experiments of Dr Ross ^{that} this process is confined to very narrow limits. He has ascertained that of the whole surface, only those parts between the middle of the thigh & hip, & the middle of the arm ~~shou~~ ^{should} perform this function. and that the only substances that are absorbed, are Madder & Rhubarb. It is observed that certain articles as the Opium-fruition, Garlic & probably some others by being breathed, can by the pulmonary organs communicate their odour to the urine. But even admitting that absorption to a certain extent does take place with respect to certain articles,

It has, never yet appeared so well calculated to account for the action of Morbid Matter on the System in producing disease, as that which attributes their deleterious effects to the agency of Sympathy, communicated from the part to which the agent is applied to the rest of the System. And in the same manner I am convinced, the salutary or deleterious effects of Remedies for the cure of disease, or destruction of the system have their action.*

As to the theories of Cullen & Brown, which lay ^{this} ~~cate~~ disease in the Nervous system chiefly; we see that the practice deduced from them has not been proven to be ^{unusually} ~~usually~~ successful to warrant the conclusion that they are well founded. If then further of those already mentioned be admitted as correct, where it may be asked are we to locate it? To this question I am apprehensive the answer is quite obvious. I am indeed so well convinced of the propriety, &c. to happen

* It must be confessed however that some of the very highest authority are of an opposite opinion. I have thought fit merely to state what my opinion is. and hope that what is right will finally be established.

location of disease, (^{being} it is well founded both as to the theory itself, and by the practice deduced from it) that it is unnecessary to make any further observations concerning it. This disease in its commencement shows I think very plainly in what spot it chooses to light.

Making its attack on the stomach it is thence, through the medium of sympathy communicated to the rest of the system.

Having thus given my opinion as to the cause & seat of this disease, we next proceed to its treatment.

Probably in the cure of no disease has there existed at different times more diametrically opposite sentiments than in Typhus. ^(But) Every physician since the time of Hippocrates, advocates of some kind, have been made use of. Probably to this assertion may be excepted the Brunonian, who considering it a disease of direct debility, resorted to the free use of opium & the other stimuli for its relief. Passing through revolutions of practice equally

unsuccessful as the theories which prompted them were erroneous; The treatment of Syphilis was little more, ^{than} the exercise of patience & expectation till the time of Dr. Samuel Hamilton. with a genius bold, enterprising & original, it appears to have been left to him to point out the tract, that greatly assisted to guide American genius to the present improved plan of treatment.

The lancet, a remedy of the first dawn of Medical Science, has had its advocates and its enemies in the treatment of this disease. But it was left for a ~~Man~~ to give it a place in the catalogue of remedies worthy its name. It was his province to enforce more strongly on the minds of the profession, the correctness of Sydenham's theory of indirect debility, and the absolute necessity of evacuates to raise the oppressed pulse, and add strength to fiction debility. Hence we find physicians of this enlightened Era; disdaining the awe which the name of a disease might seem calculated to excite

in mind, life stable & cordate; boldly recur to the lancet whenever indicated by the hard, tense & chordae pulse, the hot skin, the great determination of blood to the head, and its consequent train of morbid symptoms, delirium, head-ach, or stupor.

The plan of treatment which experience has taught to be preferable in the commencement of this dangerous case, is to evacuate the stomach first by an emetic of Ipecacuanha or Tartar Emetic, or a combination of the two, in the proportion of 10 or 15 grains of the former to 1 or 2 of the latter. And if after this evacuation of the stomach the fever still continue, to have recourse to purgatives. The best purgatives are Calomel, Salap, Rhubarb, Senna, co. loquith, but probably the best are Calomel & Salap combined. Combinations of calomel & some one of the others mentioned are highly recommended by Dr. Hamilton, as purgatives.

Simply by the exhibition of an emetic in the

forming state of the disease, it has hundreds of times been stopped in its birth, and ease and health restored. Of the operation of emetics in the cure of this fever, little need be said. By evacuating the offending contents of the stomach, they restore it in a very great measure to the exercise of its functions. We are also with the greatest probability taught to believe, that by the action they have on this viscus, the train of morbid affections is broken, & room given to the introduction of health.

However salutary in the commencement of Typhus the action of emetics may have been proven to be, it is not less certain, that when given in the more advanced stages of the they prove highly injurious. Probably nineteen times out of twenty or of thirty, they will be found to increase almost every symptom of the disease.

Exactly at the time when emetics cease to be useful the strenuous exhibition of purgatives will be found

to exert their most beneficial effects. But to gain their most salutary operation, they are to be repeated once a day, or once every other day. But in the administration of purgatives, as of every other Medicines, we are to be guided by the circumstances before us. If then the patient be oppressed by constipated bowels, loaded with excrementitious matters highly offensive, it is evident that purging is called for to a much greater extent than under opposite circumstances. Here it may be found necessary to use them even twice a day in the most liberal doses. Indeed so overpowered is the system by the disease, that it will be often found necessary to give from twenty to thirty or more grains of calomel, with an equal proportion of some of the most active cathartics, and even then to have recourse to saline cathartics, before the necessary evacuation can be procured. Hence we see that what in one case would be esteemed a very large dose of Medi-

* I am persuaded that this class of morbid is too often entirely omitted, or too long delayed.

-cine, is in another only what is necessary.

Purgings is to be continued as long as the discharges continue unnatural. The more urgent the case, the more are these remedies called for. Is the patient fainted almost without a pulse or any other sign of vitality: In this state does not in all instances prevent their use. I might probably have said the same without them almost every other means would often prove of no service. Here we are to consider, that in a large majority of instances, almost all these symptoms are the effects of oppression. And that the only way to relieve them is to deplete. It will I trust be deemed almost entirely unnecessary for me, at this far advanced period of Medical Science, to say any thing of the importance of the healthy action of the alimentary canal to the wellbeing of the rest of the system. "Languor ventriculi, &c."

"*ma languent*" has almost grown into a proverbial
 axiom, (if I may make use of the expression). This
 one remark may be said in this disease, to be
 in itself a clue, by which the judicious practi-
 tioner will not fail to observe whilst leading
 his patient through the complicated passway to
 health. As well might the Mariner expect to
 glide with ease & haste over the rough billows
 of the stormy sea, without sail anchor or com-
 pass ~~and~~, as the physician to cure Typhus
 Fever, without directing his attention to the
 alimentary canal. By purgation, we remove
 one of the grand causes of the oppression, I mean
 the acid contents of the intestines. By them these
 viscera may be enabled again to institute their
 healthy actions. And by them the system is ren-
 dered again susceptible of the usual impression
 of Medicines. Also it may be added, that by
 their operation, the patient so far from being
 debilitated, is most commonly visibly strengthened.

Leaving it to the truly learned & observant Hunter to enforce the highly beneficial effects of purgatives in this disease, by a long catalogue of cases successfully managed by them; we proceed next to speak of the other means of cure.

The use of the cold bath, or of cold water to the surface, is much practiced in the European Hospitals, & as we are informed with highly beneficial effects. The use of cold water is highly recommended by Currie & Jackson. The modes of applying it are various. The principal of which are, dashing it on the patient with buckets, or pouring it from a height, sponging the surface of the body, & the application of it to the head. Cold water, or vinegar & water, or ice are the different kinds of applications used.

By Currie these applications are said to operate simply by abstracting heat from the surface.

By Jackson their beneficial effects are attributed to a sympathetic action on the rest of the system. But by Dr. Chapman three applications are thought to prove beneficial, both by abstracting heat from the surface, and also by the effects produced ~~produced~~ on the system through the medium of sympathy. Which last opinion to me (at least) seems by far best calculated to stand the test of criticism.

*The warm bath & diffusible stimulants are also mentioned by this gentleman for this purpose.

excitement indicated by tense, chorded pulse, restlessness or general uneasiness, he directs venesection, & other means calculated to diminish the excitement, before having recourse to cold applications.

As a remedy calculated to subdue morbid excitement & tranquilize the patient in certain stages of disease, these are applications ^{that} come highly recommended. But from all that I have been able to learn concerning their action I am inclined to believe, that to obtain their best effects they ^(to be used) must be used when there is very great arterial action, not in the very advanced stages of the disease. But looking on them as a species of remedy when means of operand place them among the first of the means which should succeed the more active operation of bleeding, purging &c. in quieting the remaining traces of excitement, they are to be had recourse to when there is heat of surface, a pulse still rather tense & chorded, when there is not ^{these} insensibility, nor sweating; And when ^{there} is determination

of blood to the head producing delirium.
 After having premised the remains mentioned
 it is customary next to have recourse to Diapho-
 retics. Of all the classes of the Materia Medica,
 these are the ones, whose use is least restrained by
 vulgar prejudices. And whilst daily observation
 finds almost insuperable objections to the use of
 the Laxative, the Emetics & the purgative in the compli-
 cated treatment of Typhus and many other diseases
 in private practice; no peasant is heard to utter
 ought derogatory to the use of Sweating. From the
 rude savage whose dome is the uncultivated forest,
 and on whose brow sits depicted Nature in all her
 simplicity; we ascend through ^{various} grades of ge-
 nious and mental improvement, up to the truly
 scientific Physician of the present day; and
 find all giving approbation to the use of
 this remedy. Sanctioned by universal con-
 sent in almost every form of disease, sweat-
 ing once constituted the chief of the treatment in

Dysphus. Hamilton in his invaluable work on Purgatives, has the following sentences, expressing in a few words, the mode of treatment in this form immediately preceding the many valuable improvements introduced by himself. "I was appointed physician to the Royal Infirmary forty years ago. At this time, the cure of Dysphus was thought to consist chiefly in the removal ^{of the} & spasm of the external vessels of the surface of the body. For this purpose together with other medicines, weak antispasmodics were given freely." Vide Hamilton on Dysphus.

Although these medicines have by no means maintained the high rank imposed on them by Cullen & his disciples. Yet they are not entirely overlooked by the judicious practitioners of modern times. But he has recourse to them as an auxiliary in the reduction of the system. And as a moderate evacuation are no doubt frequently beneficial.

^(diaphoretic) The medicines which appear now most favorable spoken of in Dysphus are the following. 1st The Antipyretic

* I should also have added that they produce a good effect by acting on the surface, & producing what has been termed a solution.

monials. Of the preparations of antimony, the only one which is worthy mention is the Tartar Emetic. This to be given in doses of $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. more or less according to the state of the patient. It is now too well known to require repetition, that what will distress the stomach of one patient, will lie almost unobserved in the stomach of another, hence in prescribing Medicines this peculiarity of constitution must always regulate the dose.

To the Tart. Emetic is often added Nitrate of potash, in the form of nitrous powder. \mathcal{R} Nitro \mathfrak{zj}
 Tart. \mathfrak{ss} gr. \mathfrak{ss} . Ft. pulv. \mathfrak{viij} . of these one every two hours, according to circumstances. To the above prescription is often added X or XV grs of Calomel. This often has the effect of moderately opening the bowels, and relaxing the surface. And probably the Calomel proves often serviceable by the slight impression made on the system.

^{3rd} The Acidified spirits of Nitro either alone or in combination with Laudanum or antimonial wine. The dose

of Spt. Nit, should be about \mathfrak{zj} , to be often repeated at the intervals of half an hour, or an hour or two according to the exigency of the case.

3rd The Lacing or Neutral Mixture, \mathcal{Rj} Luccin. Lim. vel acit. com. \mathfrak{zj} saturate with Subcarb. potass, & add ap. fl. arial \mathfrak{zj} , Sacch. alb. \mathfrak{zj} . Mj. To this Mixture are sometimes added Vin. Antimon. & Tinct. Opii, &c., the ordinary dose is a Tablespoon full or two, every hour. As a Medicine pleasant to the taste, and sitting very well on the stomach, it is a remedy well deserving the first rank in the list of diaphoretics. Taken in the state of effervescence, this has been often used. And probably where there is nausea, or disposition to vomit, it may be superior to the above prescriptions. To prepare the effervescent julep, \mathcal{Rj} 40 or 50 grs Subcarb. potass. dissolve it in \mathfrak{ss} wine glass of water & add Gradatim Luccin. Lim. vel acit. com. when in its foaming state to be swallowed.

6-100 ⁵⁴ The Spiritus Mindereri or Acetilis aqua ammonia combining in itself at once opposite actions moderate-ly diaphoretic, and stimulating, is admirably adapted to the treatment of Typhus. Such is the puerility in the action of this medicine, that it is even admissible, where there are still traces of arterial excitement.

Before dismissing the consideration of Diaphoretics in this fever. It behoves us to recollect that such is the sympathetic connection between the alimentary canal & surface of the body; that as long as the former are constipated, and oppressed by the presence of acrid fæces, so long shall the practitioner be subject to uncertainty & disappointment, in the use of this class of medicines.

I had almost neglected to observe that to assist the operation of the Diaphoretics mentioned various ^{other} internal means are employed. Of these given internally may be mentioned, the various kinds of teas, as the halm, sage or flassend, barley

water, Toast water, Solution of gum arabic, all to be given warm.

Of the external applications to assist in producing sweating, there are two kinds the humid & the dry. The first consists in applying warm steam either by means of the vapour bath, or by bladders filled with warm water & applied to various parts of the body; viz to the sides, breast, & if necessary to the extremities.

Conducive to the same end is the application of bricks dipped in hot vinegar to various parts of the surface. Sponging the surface with warm vinegar & water, or putting the patient in a tub of warm water. Often we are induced to believe it will be found, that after having used the various means enumerated without producing the desired effect, results the most salutary will be found to arise from cold applications, And of the several modes of applying cold, that of sponging is preferred.

16. It will be found that I have omitted to do
 more than merely to mention that dry heat is
 used as an assistant in producing diaphoresis.
 To heat thus applied it is no doubt, ^{opined}
 by Dr. Chapman with the greatest justice,
 that it is not adapted to the treatment of
 this stage of the disease, because it is too stimu-
 lating. For even after having used the several means
 already proposed, there will exist still the
 remains of excitement, which indicate depletion.
 With a pulse small, tense, quick & chorded, eye
 wild, and avoiding the light; pain at the sto-
 mach, or breast, or ^{in the} limbs, together with a hot
 skin & general uneasiness, and delirium; & a
 turn as if unwilling to ~~yield~~ at the approach of
 disease however formidable, still holds out
 her hand for relief, from the moderate use of
 the Linctus, the Leech, the cupping glass, and
 the steady administration of Purgatives.
 Under the circumstances above enumerated, the

patient will derive very great benefit from
 the loss of a small quantity of blood from
 the arm, or if not admissible; Let leeches or
 cups be applied to the temples or some other
 part of the head. If these fail shave off the
 hair from the head, which will of itself
 often prove successful. But if this fail use
 cold applications, as ice, or ice water. And if
 these fail, then resort to a blister large enough
 to cover the whole head. But before having re-
 -course to shaving the head, would it not be
 most advisable to try a blister to the back of
 the neck & let it extend some way down
 the back? This last remedy has the opinion
 of Dr. Chapman in its favour. And I am sure
 that I have seen it very speedily relieve the
 comatose state of this disease, as well as
 delirium under very unfavorable circum-
 -stances. If then (as is very likely to be the
 case), there be very great objections made

by the patient's friends to having the hair shaved & the head covered with a blister; The practitioner will no doubt derive very great benefit to his patient & satisfaction to himself, from a blister about three inches & a half wide & twelve or eighteen long, applied on the back part of the neck, & extending three down the spine.

If after having used the various means thus mentioned the disease is not subdued; There is about this time a tendency in the system to give way. The pulse becomes weaker & quicker, beating from 120 to 130 or more strokes in the minute. Low delirium, Subsultus tendinum; Tongue becomes covered with a crust thicker & more dry; Teeth covered ^{with} a similar crust; Breath becomes more fetid, & in fine the Prognostic of the patient indicates pretty plainly that the system is sinking. This is what has been denominated the second stage of Typhus.

Exactly at this stage, recourse is had to Stimulants. The Vol. Alkali, (or more properly speaking Carbonate of Ammonia) appears now to be preferred by the highest authority. Ranking among the most active stimulants it is justly esteemed in the management of the low stages of Typhus. The mode in which it is employed is what is commonly known under the name of Vol. Julep. Prepared as follows, Rj Vol. alk. ℥j, Larch. alb. ℥j. ol. Citron. ʒj. qts ag Font. & el ʒvj. of this mixture a Table Spoonful is to be given every two or three hours, "pro re nata". Or what I have known to prove equally beneficial is to take ʒj of Vol. alkali, ℥j or ʒjss of honey & ʒvj water, as the former, & given in a similar manner. It makes a very pleasant julep & from its simplicity is entitled to notice. When the patient gets tired of one of these preparations he may probably have recourse to the other with advantage. As an article when action we are

informed is nearly allied to that of Volatile
alkali, wine which should never be overlooked.
It is to be used at the same time with the
Vol. Julep. It is made as follows, Rj One part
wine & two parts Milk, the milk is permitted to
boil gently & the wine is added, this is to be swe-
-tened & if necessary diluted with water. Of
this the patient is to take a wine glass or more
in the intervals between taking the Vol. Julep.

Camphor, An article once highly esteemed
as an antiseptic, though long since hav-
-ing lost its reputation as such, is still ~~high~~
the highest of Medical authority permitted
a seat among the first of that class of remedies
on which we are chiefly to rely in the sinking
conditions of Typhus. As to the notion of the pu-
-trification of the blood in a living person, I
must confess I have ^{no} idea how it could have
received the sanction of any name. Origina-
-ting in an age when imagination, that facul-

-ty, which seems so well calculated to raise man above himself & all that is round him, appears to have been busily engaged in fabricating hypotheses to be for awhile fanned by fancy; but even this while seemed to wait the arrival of the next gale that may pass; that by its chilling blast, all its boasted solidity might become unrooted; and eclipsed by the splendour of a coming thought cease to exist except as a novelty; the idea of putrefaction found its way to notice. There in a soil congealed to its growth, it flourished, ripened, droopt from its supporting stalk, and by its fall prostrated, has putrefied, crumbled & vanished. The mode of preparing this medicine for use is what has been long known under the title of Cantharides Julep. Dr. Chapman prescribes the following
 ℞ ʒi Camph. Sacch. alb. ʒij Myrrh. xxx grs Ag. Font. ʒiv. of this a table spoonful every two or three hours. Or what is spoken highly of, a suspension

of it in Milk, made by simple trituration, or dissolved in Stigee water. In a dose of five or ten grains either of the last modes may be employed.

Next we come to speak of Blisters. Of the propriety of applying blisters in Typhus Fever, doubts have been entertained by those who dread the debilitating effects that might arise from the depletion they occasion. Whilst by others they are esteemed among the most valuable remedies.

Among those by whom they are condemned are to be mentioned the names of Pringle, Moore and Fordyce. By the last named gentleman it is contended that blisters possess no power in arresting the action of fever. But that under all circumstances they aggravate, by the irritation they occasion. This opinion strange as it may appear, would seem calculated to press itself on us, by the highly respectable source whence it originates. But however respectable in most other instances, it seem to have been left to the greatness of this truly admirable & original genius, to become the parent of an error.

* I neglected to state above, that we, ^{are} advised by Dr. Chapman, in the use of Ipec. alba & Camphor, when the system has become accustomed to the action of one, to have recourse to the other.

commensurate in every respect with the greatness
 of its parentage. In no way can I account for
 this extraordinary doctrine, better than by attribu-
 ting it to an untimely use of the remedy. For
 what does the practice of Medicine consist, but in
 graduating the remedy to the state of the system in
 disease? I suppose of an action highly stimu-
 lating, no one at present I am apprehensive will
 resort to the use of blisters in the inflammatory stages
 of fever. If used before the excitement is much
 subdued by strict abstinence to the Antiphlogistic
 treatment, they no doubt will generally be found
 to aggravate the disease. But in the hands of a skil-
 ful practitioner effects the most salutary result.
 By the counter irritation they occasion, the remedy
 can rank with a blister in restoring the healthy
 actions of the system after the proper use of the
 depletory measures. The salutary action they exert
 more than thrice counterbalances the slight de-
 pletion they occasion. But why should I pretend

to add ought to establish the high standing of this remedy, when I see the names of Huxham, Cullen, Lind, Rush, Chapman and ^{many} more whose names stand justly entitled to the first rank in the long catalogue of Medical Philosophers, all with one consent giving approbation to its use.

Blisters are to be applied to the extremities, or if there be still remaining at the region of the stomach pain, a sense of uneasiness, or tenderness to the touch let a blister be applied here. Or if there be confusion of head, delirium or coma & it is not relieved by the several means above recited let a blister be applied as I have before directed. And though the names of Scovinn & Thomas be added to the contrary, the delirium is no less disposed to subside. But to prove successful they are to be promoted to remain till they draw, should that require one day or two. A blister will seldom be found to exert its heat effects in less than sixteen or twenty ~~four~~ hours. The mind

now becomes tranquil, & composed.

Together with the above articles are to be named
Opium, wine, must, asphaltum, Castor, & Bark.

Opium is an article valuable in itself & various
as regards the various notions entertained at different
times with regard to its operations. By one
set of writers it was held as a sedative, & used
as such; while by another class it has been put
at the head of stimulants. By the celebrated Boerhaave
who has been justly called "The Son of Genius &
Misfortune"; this medicine was highly esteemed as
a remedy in what he termed Asthenia Nervosa.

And ever since his time it has had its advo-
cates in the treatment of Typhus Fever. It appears
to sustain the sinking energies of the system, to relieve
the uneasiness which often distresses & wears out the
patient, and as a medicine in the low stages to relieve
delirium is thought by Dr. Chapman to be equal if
not superior to any internal medicine we can use.
His prescription is one grain every two or three

hauris pro re nata"

The Musk Julap composed of Musk, Gum. Arab, Sweet
alt. 2ā ℥j, ag. Font. ʒij ℥ij. The Julap. of this a table
Spoonful every two, three or four hours. When it
cannot be taken by the mouth from any cause, it
is to be dimitted as an injection. As a remedy of
super of properties similar to the natural Musk,
the Artificial is substituted. It is used in similar
manners with the natural Musk. The mode in which
it is prepared is by pouring ʒij of concentrated
nitric acid on ℥j of the ol. Luccini, & afterwards
thoroughly washing the product.

Apsaeptide in pill, Linet or watery solution is
sometimes used as a substitute for the last named
Medicine. But according to Dr. Chapman not with
"half the effect."

Of the Castor little is thought by Physicians of
the present day. Ten or fifteen grains of the powder,
or one or two drachms of the tincture is the proper
dose.

Wine in liberal doses is highly extolled. Fordyce the action of wine is said to be beneficial by sustaining the force of the circulation and also acting as a sedative. And on the account it is preferred by him even to mania, which according to him "quickens the circulation without sustaining its force." Respectable as the source is whence this opinion is derived; I do not believe subsequent experience has proven it to be correct in toto. But that this is a most valuable remedy no one can doubt. It appears well calculated to sustain the sinking stages of this disease by its stimulating power, and while it thus acts, it is thought to be somewhat nutritious. In possession of these properties it is admissible when a stimulus is required. It appears to be compatible with the other stimulents mentioned. And is generally prescribed along with them in the advanced stages. To be effe

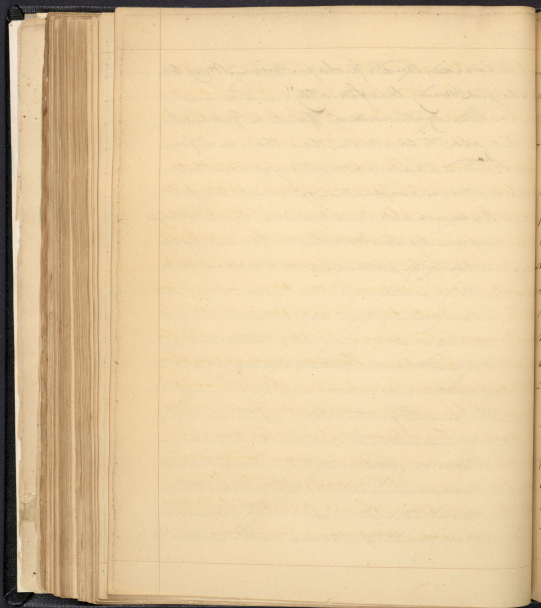
Having accidentally omitted the consideration of Bark in its proper place, I beg leave to insert a short description of it here.

As to the use of this Medicine in Typhus little need be said. I do not believe that it is highly esteemed. What seems now to be the opinion of the best authority is, that Bark is neither a misfeasance in the first nor last stage. It will be fully sufficient to designate the proper time for its use, to quote a few lines from the Professor of Practice in this institution. "Notwithstanding, (continues he) its different modes of production, typhus fever seems nearly always in its primary stages to be either congestive or inflammatory, & hence stimulants as well as tonics are precluded. Yet there is a point in the progress of these fevers, which is to be

learn't by attention to the pulse, & other
circumstances, at which the book may be
introduced with advantage. This is true
in the commencement, nor at the close of the
case. As long as the pulse is excited, the skin hot,
the tongue parched, the eye wild, the head op-
-pressed, our Medicines is inadmissible, and
not less so when subcutaneous tenderness, low delir-
-ium, and other indications of great exhar-
-dation, supervene. The symptoms of the first
stage, are most effectually removed
by venesection, purging, cold ablu-tions, or mild
relaxing diaphoretics: and those of the final
stage, by opium, wine, Vol. alkali & blisters.
Between these opposite extremes, there is
a point, at which the disease betrays
some tendency to give way, or remit, and
particularly if it has been occasioned by
menstrual effluvia, when the book alone,
or what I am sure is better, with the

Serpentaria, and, perhaps, wine, may be employed very beneficially."

Concerning the use of bark in typhus I am not able to say more than that in a few cases ^{have} been it employed as an injection, but whether it was productive of much benefit or not I was not able to determine. In the attempts made to give by the mouth, it appeared highly disagreeable to the patient, and was soon laid aside.



and a bottle is ^{be} taken in the twenty four hours. of the wines Madeira or Sherry is to be preferred. of these the former is preferable. Old Port is sometimes grateful.

By the use of the above means remains, this disease will generally be arrested in its progress. But should they fail of stopping its bloody march; Symptoms the most horrid arise. The pulse before small, weak & quick, now becomes more so. Beating from 130 to 170, and sometimes so fast as not to be numbered. To the finger it communicates the sensation of a fine thread moderately stretched & made to vibrate. often beating quite differently in one arm from what it does in the other. While in the one it is found possessed of some regularity & a slight degree of tension, in the other all the symptoms of excessive debility are to be perceived, irregular & tremulous.

Countenance sunk, pallid; the Alae nasi
 pressed in, eyes half closed, pupils dilated.
 Breathing laborious & panting; bron-
 chial. Often on one cheek is seen despite
 the hectic blush, which presently changes
 its seat to the other. Skin cold & often clammy
 or else clammy. Temperature different at
 different parts of the surface, whilst on
 one part it is cold, another communicates
 a sense of preternatural warmth. The
 arterial arteries begin to throb, delirium com-
 mences, or rather a low muttering, from which
 if spoken to in a sharp tone the patient awakes
 for awhile ^{he} is aroused, but soon again
 if by some loss of thought he resumes his
 muttering tone. While in this situation
 a partial sweat is sometimes seen to break
 out from the neck or forehead, but to
 give no apparent relief. Often no pain
 is complained of; but when asked how

feels, if he gives any answer, it generally
 is that he is quite well. But in other in-
 stances a sense of weight with pain is felt
 at the epigastric region. There is not generally
 much thirst, but in some there is conside-
 rable. But as is observed ^{by} Husham "no kind of
 drink pleases, but all seem bitter and
 mawkish." Bowels loaded with dark fa-
 tulent matter, which sometimes causes pain;
 They are frequently so obstinately constipa-
 ted that it is very difficult to move them.
 The tongue & tattle are found covered with
 a thick sodas, dry & dark. In some a black
 streak is seen to mark the middle of the
 tongue, commencing at its root & proce-
 ding towards its apex. A patient labour-
 ing under these symptoms must vi-
 dently require all that can import ene-
 rgy to his sinking condition to prevent the
 mortality of his disease.

Here the practice is to ^{be} vigorous in proportion to the emergency of the case. The dose of stimulating medicines are to be increased. The most effectual of these appear to be the Col. Sulph., wine, wine & whig, & Muste & Camphor. Sulph. a table spoonful or more is to be given every hour or oftener according to the case. But of the wine & wine & whig a wine glass or two is sufficient, and generally answers a very valuable purpose as an agreeable medicine to be given between each dose of the more active stimulus. If wine cannot be had (as is not unfrequently the case in the country) brandy & water may be substituted. In the form of strong toddy, made of equal parts of brandy & water, over which is grated a nutmeg. The dose of this is two or three table spoonful.

By the disciples of what may probably be termed the Pestoid Doctrine much has been

* So that I am much inclined to add Osters. This effect will be considered presently.

of the use of carbonic acid in the low stages of Typhus. By them it was resorted to with the view of correcting the putrid state of the fluids. But though more correct theory has sufficiently established the fallacy of this doctrine, experience still retains the remedy. And ^{as} a means of sustaining strength it is found to be administered. Porter, cider and beer are all recommended. But the first which good is preferred.

By Sir Wm. Fordyce the Mineral acids are spoken highly of in the treatment of this disease. The first employed them in Angina Maligna, & afterwards, in the low stages of Typhus fever. But subsequent experience does not seem to be favourable to their use here. By Dr. Chapman it is observed that they are not to be ranked high. Should we were we to judge from their *modus operandi*, they certainly would not offer any fair claims to attention in a disease

where even the most active stimulants are imperiously demanded. And to be using a remedy of inferior worth, is to be merely trusting to the decision of Chance instead of a remedy for the safety of the patient.

In speaking of the use of Mercury I cannot do better than to quote a passage from Dr Chapman's *Therap. & Mat. Med.* as conveying in a few words ^{namely} all that need be said of its use here, His words are as follows; "But there is another stage of typhus fever, in which the same medicine proves serviceable. Towards the close of an attack, it is alleged, that Calomel given in minute doses, every two or three hours, to stimulate the blood vessels, and not to purge, will now & then produce the most astonishing effects. It here acts, in the words, by exciting a mercurial fever, which subverts the existing state of things. But to effect the purpose, the powers of Calomel are very much

improved by using at the same time opium, volatile alkali & wine, And Mercurial frictions in place of Calomel may sometimes be substituted.

But in the advanced stages of typhus Calomel appears to be highly beneficial by exciting at the same time a discharge from the intestines, of the dark irritating matter, they are almost always found to contain. Is highly as I esteem this medicine under these circumstances that I beg leave to urge its use whenever a purge is necessary. To the Authority of our Learned professor of the practice of Medicine, on this or almost any other subject coming within the wide expanded limits of his professorship, I am well aware that I can add but little; But since this happens to be a point which receives his approbation more from the plausibility of the theory which should lead to the practice, than from his having made many trials with

the Medicine, I will merely observe that in
 a number of Cases of this fever I was induced
 to use Calomel in very large doses with the
 happiest effects. But in its use I never lost
 sight of the use of Opium, vol. alkali & the
 other stimulants. The reasons which in-
 -ced me to use it were, 1st That from the
 perusal of Dr. Ammon's treatise on fevers
 I was pretty well assured of the ne-
 -cessity of this use. 2nd That as an emaciant Cal-
 -omel came highly recommended as one of the most
 effectual in cleansing the bowels of their contents
 and 3rd That whilst the bowels were thoroughly
 opened by it, an impression might be made
 on the general system (as is described above)
 and thus by creating a new train of actions
 the existing ones might be made to subside.
 The mode of giving it which I found to be
 -and best, was to give from fifteen to twenty
 grains of the Medicine at a dose, which pro-

the nature both of the disease & the remedy itself, generally lingered in the alimentary canal for several hours. But if it did not operate within the space of five or six hours, a dose of Senna or Castor oil or some such Medicines was directed, or else an injection made "More Solite". This seldom failed after a short time to bring away a quantity of feces often black & many of the consistence of tar, and very foetid. The countenance which before was painted with all the gloom of a most oppressive Malady would often be made to wear an aspect more cheering. The delirium which before was constant, & attended with a low muttering was frequently found to disappear; that strength which before was scarcely sufficient to sustain the lingering remains of vitality, was evidently invigorated, and the skin which before was possessed of a temperature very

-ing in different parts, and dry or else
besprinkled with a clammy dampness, we
often found to possess a lively heat & instead
of that deadly feel, to become more rational.
To those who forget the influence of the Alimen-
tary canal over the rest of ^{the} animal economy,
and who overlook the action ^{of} Mercury when ad-
ministered for the purposes above detailed, it
may seem to be rather strange practice. But
it will I hope be by every ^{one} concurred that
in the prosecution of the practice ^{of} Medicine
it is by far preferable to follow a practice
which has proven generally successful, even
though unsupported by any theory, than to
be guided by the most splendid Theory in
pursuing a practice less beneficial to his
patients.

As a remedy in combating the ravages of the
last stages of typhus, the Lft. of Turpentine
comes so highly recommended that I cannot for

a moment doubt its efficacy. Not confined to the cases of Typhus febrilis, this valuable medicine is also had recourse to in all cases of low action. And if we judge of the nature of a disease from the symptoms which through its progress present themselves, I am much inclined to believe that the use of this article is extremely well adapted to the case before us. It appears rather probable in my estimation, that there may exist even at this advanced state of the disease, a slight degree of inflammation in the stomach which gives rise to the sense of pain in the Epigastric region of which the patient often complains, when pressed on especially. But since experience has shown it to be beneficial, it is scarcely worth while to theorise on its modus operandi.

The Linctus is directed in the dose of a teaspoonful to be repeated every two or three

hours. In this way I understand it is much used by the first practitioners in this City.

In the armies of Europe Phosphorus is used in the advanced stages of low diseases. And we judge from the activity of the medicine it seems well worthy trial. The dose of it a sixth or eighth of a grain in ether.

I mentioned blisters as a remedy in the sinking condition of this fever in a note above; But I think a more full consideration is due. And in the farther prosecution of them I will observe that to their use objections are made which were we disposed to shut our eyes to - son, are still entitled to the highest respect as being the production of the ablest pens. Viewing truth as "a unit" entitled also to the honest man's due consideration & most generous esteem; It now becomes necessary for me to leave for a while that path over which I have thus steps guided by the parental hand

of my preceptor. And he for a while governed by an opinion whose correctness I am obliged to acknowledge. It long since has been an established rule for those who entertain opinions on any subject, to appeal to experience to prove them correct. And did the experience of all tend to prove the same thing, this were not to be wondered at. But what is a man to think, when he finds under the same roof, men possessed of talents & acquirements excelled by none, & still on the same point entertaining opinions diametrically opposite? No branch of science is free from this gross mark of its imperfection. From the more humble grade of the mechanic, up to the philosopher himself, difference of opinion is still a characteristic. In medicine the divine hand maid to humanity every physician must blush when he finds it the prominent characteristic of every page.

Thus circumstanced, it is natural enough for the student to enquire, who is right? If he receive every opinion as the correct one, he should be highly obliged to him to inform me what his opinion would be.

If discrepancy of opinion were solely confined to mere theories, not permitted to meddle with the practice, it might then be looked on as a matter of no great importance. But as it now is, it is seriously to be regretted by every friend to Science & Humanity.

But to return from this digression (for which I beg pardon;) It becomes necessary for me to observe, that even in the last stages of Typhus Fever, blisters are serviceable. It would be with the utmost diffidence that I advanced this opinion had not experience taught me its correctness. But I do not pretend to assert that blisters are

applicable to the treatment of that form of Typhus which is the result of jails, Hospitals & such like places, because I have never seen them used in such cases. But in saying this much I do not wish to be understood to make any division in the cases originating from different causes, though it is highly probable that this as some other diseases may be influenced by the causes which produce them, and if so may require some difference in their plan of treatment. It is also well known that Climate & Modes of life give a different character to the same disease, & require a difference in their treatment. On these principles it is that I am convinced the vast variety in the treatment of diseases has arisen. And hence also may probably arise the diversity of sentiment with respect to this remedy in this disease. To the use of blisters it has been objected, that

they are very uncertain in drawing; that the excitement they produce is not communicable to any extent when they do draw; that their action does not appear to be of the heating kind; and lastly that they are apt to produce ugly ulcers or gangrenes of the part on which they are applied. These are the objections I believe to their use.

But in a number of cases in which I have seen them applied I have never seen a blister justly deserve those censures. The case of the disease in which I have seen them applied appeared in the fall of 1819 & continued through the chief of the winter. This disease at the same time appeared in various parts of our country. The part of the country in which I lived was much oppressed by it. No family scarcely was to be found, on which this disease did not mark by its various tokens the cruelty of its march. It was very common

to find our help & in some instances the whole of a family confined to their beds. The disease was marked by the symptoms which I have above detailed. In this fever probably no remedy was entitled to higher praise than the application of blisters. They were liberally used and seemed to be beneficial in proportion to their number. They were applied to the head or back of the neck to relieve delirium & generally with success. They were applied at the same time to the extremities, to assist in stimulating. They were often laid over the stomach to relieve the pain or uneasiness which so often is found to be complained of in the earlier stages of the disease, and generally were found to relieve it, or to mitigate and at least to render the patient more comfortable. Applied to the abdomen they frequently assisted the operation of cathartics. But blisters at the

same time were applied with the hope, that
 as in other diseases, they are found so highly
 beneficial in subverting the existing disease
 action, they might also here in some mea-
 sure retain that salutary power over disease.
 They it is true were not found to draw as
 daily, nor always as completely as in ordinary
 cases of disease. But what remedy in this state
 of the system is not subjected to the same ob-
 jection. It ^{has} been well observed that so long
 as the system prostrated, that it is not acted
 on by medicines as they are wont to do under
 opposite circumstances. It must be obvious
 to every ^{one}, I think who will consider the
 due operandi of medicines, under these cir-
 cumstances, that they all require to be more
 frequently repeated than before, because
 their effect is not so permanent. And if the
 susceptibility to their impression be dimi-
 nished, they must also be increased in quantity.

-tity. And if their impression be less gene-
 rally communicative, they of course ^(ought to) be more
 generally applied. It will also be admitted
 that, as the vital energy of a part is dimin-
 ished, so ought the activity of the remedy to
 be increased. If all this be true I cannot
 see why blisters, a remedy whose stimulating
 effects are generally acknowledged, should not
 be resorted to, as a part of the means for
 enabling the crippled energies of Nature, to
 cast off a burthen too oppressive to be
 supported. It may be asked are they not
 serviceable applied to the extremities, by ex-
 -citing in them a more vigorous action? Even
 admitting them when applied here, not to be
 able to carry their stimulating operation to
 any considerable extent, I am inclined to
 think well of them. But while we are wait-
 -ing for the kind operation of a blister, no
 one I hope will suppose for a moment, that

(may)
 no other is to be used. They do not interfere
 with the exhibition of any other means with
 which I am acquainted.

But as to the effects produced by them on the
 parts to which they have been applied I can
 only state what I know to be fact. That they
 may have often produced sores or gangrene
 I have no reason to doubt, but I never saw
 them produce a sore but one, and never
 saw gangrene result from their action.

The case in which an ulcer was the conse-
 quence of a blister, was as follows, a girl
 of about twenty years of age had blisters
 applied to each ankle; they were directed to
 remain on till they produced vesications
 which in the space of some time I do not
 recollect how long, they did. When they
 were examined, they had the usual ap-
 pearance; they were dressed with cotton
 leaves as is customary. But the patient

while scissious struck it against the side of the bed post. The consequence was an ugly sore. But this shortly healed by the use of simple cerate, and in time the patient recovered. This too was one of the most hopeless cases that I ever saw to recover.

I have much disposed to think that the use of blisters has generally been too limited. I have in more cases than one seen the best effects from the application of, from six to ten large ones. The mode of using them which to me appears preferable is to keep them continually drawing. And to effect this, as soon as one begins to act, another is to be applied, and thus continued as long as they are necessary. In this way the action which has once been excited by them is not permitted to pass off before it is renewed. In this manner their action

will no doubt be found beneficial.

Sinapisms sometimes produce very striking effects in relieving delirium. They are to be applied to soles of the feet. They will sometimes be found serviceable in assisting the operations of a blister. It is advised to apply a sinapism to the part on which the blister is to be put & permit it to remain till it begins to redness the part & then remove it & put on the blister.

Besides the ones above mentioned, various other stimulating applications have proved serviceable. Cayenne pepper, of which a strong decoction is to be applied to the parts - are. Cataplasms of Garlic to different parts of the surface. Heat by means of hot sand or ashes or oats warm, or bladders of warm water, or bottles full of warm water are all serviceable, applied to the surface. But preferable is the warm brandy bath. Water

Dr. Chapman's Lectures.

In the close of the disease a diarrhoea sometimes comes on, and adds greatly to the danger of the case. Under these circumstances opium & the cretaceous julip are highly recommended. To relieve hiccup a most distressing symptom, various means have had recourse to. Among which are to be mentioned spts. of Turpentine, Ether, opium, Musk, ol. Succini, Lime water & milk, or arant spirits to be given in small doses occasionally.

But valuable as these remedies may all be, in themselves, much is still due to a well regulated diet, and due attention to the patient. So long as the traces of arterial action remain to be subdued, the diet is to be low. It should here be made to consist of a little rice or else a cup of tea or coffee, or toast & water, or barley water &c. But in the second stage when the patient begins to sink, his

food is to be more nutritious. Hence he is to have
 an egg or oysters, or rich broth, or something
 similar. But it is only requisite to observe
 that the same rules which regulate the
 exhibition of medicine is equally applica-
 -ble to diet.

The room is to be kept perfectly clean & well
 ventilated. If the apartment in which ^{he} is
 cannot be freely ventilated; Let him be re-
 -moved to one that can be. It has been observed
 that motions here prove beneficial.

The floor & walls of the room are to be sprink-
 -led with vinegar. Fumigations in the apartment
 of vinegar or tar or turpentine have been said to
 prove beneficial.

The patient's linen is to be kept perfectly clean
 and often changed. His bed is to be kept ^{so}
 during the continuance of the disease it should
 be often exposed to the air, for by putting ^{him}
 on another bed occasionally he is rendered

Much more comfortable, and the contagious character of the fever is diminished.

The excrementitious matter is to be removed as soon as evacuated. The room is not to be crowded, as it renders the atmosphere less fit for respiration, and thus adds much to the oppression of the patient.

Though a detail, in itself tedious and painful, we have at length gone. And in contemplating the situation of the Millions, whose misfortunes, it has been to undergo the dangers incident to this disease, or meaner than to sink; the tear of sympathy is always ready to cascade. But how pleasing is it see that within the space of half a century, typhus fever, whose touch was once the prelude to death: and which was approached by the physician of a former day with a hand trembling, from a consciousness of its impotence, now attacked with an arm

which the ample resources of the healing art,
 has remained firm & vigorous. And by the pre-
 sent enlighten'd plan of treatment, robbed
 of many of the terrors it once possess'd, it
 has been render'd comparatively mild & inno-
 cuous. But to completely quell & subvert
 it, much yet remains to be done. And to the
 magnanimous friend to science & humanity
 the accomplishment of an end at once
 the ensign of dignity, & the handmaid to phi-
 lanthropy, is committed, with the hope the
 human evil already declining, may continue
 daily to diminish.

